

Planning for the Future of Local Schools

Frequently Asked Questions



How are Meniffee Union Schools doing?

Meniffee Union School District (MUSD) is proud to serve over 12,000 elementary and middle students at 17 school sites and 1 virtual campus. The teachers and staff at MUSD strive to provide a high-quality education to students to prepare them for limitless futures.

What is the state of MUSD facilities and classrooms?

While MUSD schools serve our community well, many of our classrooms are at risk for overcrowding due to increased student enrollment. Overcrowded classrooms make it more difficult for students to learn and decrease the amount of time teachers can spend with individual students. The need to build new schools is great, without new classrooms and school buildings, MUSD will need to add portable classrooms at school sites to help alleviate overcrowding.

What is needed to continue high-quality education at MUSD schools?

Due to increased enrollment the need to build new schools is great. Additionally, renovating and reopening Meniffee Elementary School is an option being considered to address overcrowding.

How is MUSD planning to address these needs?

To ensure that all students have access to a safe, modern learning environment that prepares them for future success, the MUSD Governing Board is evaluating placing a \$205 million facilities improvement bond measure on the November 2024 ballot.

How much would a potential measure cost?

Although no decisions have been made, the Governing Board is considering a \$205 million school facilities improvement bond measure for the November 2024 ballot. The annual cost of the measure to property owners would be limited to \$30 per \$100,000 of County assessed value (not market value).

What is the difference between County assessed value and market value?

The cost of bond measures is based on the assessed value of properties established by the County assessor. The County assessed value of a property is generally based on the original purchase price and does not increase by more than 2% a year, while the market value could grow at a much faster rate depending on market conditions. Thus, the County assessed value is often lower than the market value, especially if a property was purchased long ago at a much lower price than it could be purchased for today.

How would funding from a local school facilities improvement measure be used?

If approved by voters, funding from a potential school facilities improvement bond measure could be used to:

- Add schools and classrooms to help address increased student enrollment and support full day TK and K instruction
- Support quality instruction in math, science, technology, engineering and arts
- Remove hazardous materials where needed
- Repair or replace deteriorating roofs, plumbing, sewer, heating, ventilation, and electrical systems
- Ensure all schools meet current academic and safety standards
- Provide proper access for students with disabilities



How can we be sure funds from a potential measure would be used responsibly?

A potential school facilities improvement bond measure would include mandatory fiscal accountability requirements, including:

- Citizens' oversight and independent audits to ensure funds are spent on approved projects
- All money raised by a potential measure would remain under local control
- No funds could be taken by the State
- Funds from a potential measure could be used to compete for State matching funds that would otherwise go to other school districts

Would all funds from a potential measure benefit Menifee schools only?

Yes. All funds generated by a potential measure would be required to stay local for our elementary and middle schools and could not be taken away by the State or used for other purposes.

Haven't we already passed a bond measure?

Yes. In 2016 the MUSD community passed Measure Q, a \$135 million school facilities bond measure. Funds from Measure Q bonds have helped fund the first phase of upgrades to MUSD schools and classrooms.

Has the District used funds from previous measures responsibly?

Yes. The Measure Q citizens' oversight committee has found that MUSD completed Measure Q projects on time and aligned with voter-approved priorities. The oversight committee reports can be viewed at this link menifeeusd.org/District/Department/148-Citizens-Bond-Oversight-Committee-for-Measure-Q.

When would a potential measure appear on the ballot?

While the MUSD Governing Board is evaluating all funding options, a potential measure could appear on the November 5, 2024, ballot.

What level of support is required for a bond measure to pass?

At least 55% of those voters who cast a ballot on a potential bond measure must vote "Yes" in order for the potential bond measure to be approved.

How can I share feedback and learn more?

MUSD values input from our community. To share questions, feedback, and comments please contact Director of Facilities, Jim Sellers at jim.sellers@menifeeusd.org.